

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, on the ninth day of January, Two Thousand Fourteen, water supplied by West Virginia American Water Company (“WVAW”) in certain areas of Boone, Cabell, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Putnam, and Roane Counties became contaminated, and in accordance with my authority as Governor, I declared a State of Emergency in those areas and broadcasted WVAW’s water use advisories to affected citizens; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the State of Emergency declaration, I immediately commenced emergency planning and operations in coordination with the West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (“DHHR”), and other State agencies; activated the State’s Emergency Operations Center; and obtained emergency assistance from other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact; and

WHEREAS, I also activated the West Virginia National Guard to, among other things, coordinate public and private efforts to distribute water to citizens affected by the water use advisories; consult with scientists to develop testing protocols and procedures to detect the contaminants throughout WVAW’s water distribution system; and facilitate testing at WVAW’s operations plant, hospitals, schools, and at other locations; and

WHEREAS, through the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, I requested the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the National Institutes of Health to immediately develop and implement water use health screening standards relating to the contaminants at issue; and

WHEREAS, the CDC recommended a screening level of 1 part per million (1 ppm) of the contaminant MCHM in drinking water as a protective level to prevent adverse health effects, and the State established a more stringent testing threshold of 10 parts per billion (10 ppb); and

WHEREAS, in the weeks that followed the State of Emergency declaration, I exercised additional emergency powers to protect the health, safety, and welfare of affected citizens, including, but not limited to, engaging scientists and experts through an emergency procurement to conduct an independent evaluation of the water use health screening standard established by the CDC and the State testing threshold; determine the aesthetic characteristics of the contaminants through odor threshold concentration testing and other experiments; and develop a sampling plan for testing the concentration of contaminants in private residences; and

WHEREAS, together with the DHHR, I formally requested the CDC, or its partners, to immediately conduct further epidemiological and toxicological studies on the contaminants at issue; and

WHEREAS, I have charged the General Counsel, Office of the Governor, and participating State agencies to conduct a thorough After Action Review of the State's emergency response to the circumstances giving rise to the State of Emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection is supervising the work of contractors who are remediating the property polluted by the contaminants and will ensure that the faulty storage tanks on that property will be razed forthwith; and

WHEREAS, water testing of WVAW's water distribution system indicates that the contaminants are presently at non-detectable levels below 2 parts per billion (2 ppb) at WVAW's operations plant, hospitals, schools, and at other locations; and

WHEREAS, I have directed State agencies to continue monitoring and responding to public health and safety concerns as the State and its citizens transition from a State of Emergency to a State of Recovery.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EARL RAY TOMBLIN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of West Virginia, and in consideration of the foregoing, do hereby **ORDER** that the State of Emergency as declared by two separate proclamations dated the ninth day of January, Two Thousand Fourteen, for certain areas of Boone, Cabell, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Putnam, and Roane Counties, is rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the twenty-eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Fourteen, in the One Hundred Fifty-First year of the State.



Earl Ray Tomblin

GOVERNOR

By the State

Walter E. Elementary

SECRETARY OF STATE